

forces. Recognizing the need for continuing these proven arrangements, Canada has today joined the other members of NATO in making the following declaration:

"The following declaration has been agreed on between the heads of government of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

"The North Atlantic Treaty and the Organization established under it are both alike essential to the security of our countries.

"The Atlantic alliance has ensured its efficacy as an instrument of defence and deterrence by the maintenance in peace-time of an integrated and interdependent military organization, in which, as in no previous alliance in history, the efforts and resources of each are combined for the common security of all. We are convinced that this organization is essential and will continue. No system of bilateral arrangements can be a substitute.

"The North Atlantic Treaty and the Organization are not merely instruments of the common defence. They meet a common political need and reflect the readiness and determination of the member countries of the North Atlantic Community to consult and act together wherever possible in the safeguard of their freedom and security in the furtherance of international peace, progress and prosperity."

I would remind the House before I take my seat that the Government of France, in the note it has sent to Canada, does not, as I said during the question period today, propose to denounce the Treaty.

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